

# **Mass/DEP MHOA REGIONAL HEALTH OFFICIALS SEMINAR WINTER 2008**



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# INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING COMMENTS

- **FY08 Priorities**
- **Few Topics of Interest & Updates**



## "SIX E's": COMMISSIONER BURT PRIORITIES

- **Environmental quality**
- **Energy Impacts**
- **Encourage Technological Innovation**
- **Efficiency**
- **Enforcement**
- **Education & Outreach**



# ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

- **Water Programs:** TMDL's: Stormwater; keep water local
- **Solid Waste:**
  - Optimize recycling programs
  - Maximize energy recovery
  - Landfills last
- **Toxics:** New TURA; Hg Products Law; EC's
- **Enhanced Emergency Preparedness:** PWS's; SNCI



# ENERGY IMPACTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- **Key priority for Patrick Administration**
- **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)**
  - Cornerstone of GHG reduction
  - 32 major facilities effects
  - “Cap and Trade” concept
- **Encourage/Support Renewable Energy Projects**
  - Wind power projects: 250 MW by 2017
  - BioMass Projects: wood; organic wastes





## ENERGY IMPACTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (continued)

- **Lead by Example**
- **Energy Management Pilot Project**
  - Public Water Treatment Plants
  - Wastewater Treatment Plants



# ENCOURAGE TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION

- **Incentives for private sector leadership**
- **Remove regulatory barriers**
- **IT Industries come to and stay in Mass**



# **EFFICIENCY IN DOING GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**





# PERMIT STREAMLINING EFFORTS

- **GOVERNMENT SHOULD MOVE AT THE SPEED OF BUSINESSES**
- **GOAL OF 6 MONTHS TO MAKE ALL PERMIT DECISIONS**



# SHORTER TIMELINES

- **Across the board reduction by 20 percent**
- **90 percent of all permit decisions within 180 days**



# STREAMLINED PROGRAMS

- **Air Quality permitting**
- **Groundwater permitting**
- **Ch. 91: waterways permitting (non dependent projects)**
- **Wetlands Appeals**



# ENFORCEMENT IN FY-07



## **ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY LEVELS REMAIN HIGH**

- **7,100 Compliance inspections (highest in 6 years)**
- **\$5.4 million in penalties (above 5-year average)**
- **2,330 Notices of Non-compliance (slightly below 5-year average)**
- **1,050 Higher Level Enforcement actions (second highest in last 10 years)**





## **MEASURABLE RESULTS FROM ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

- **320,000 tons of pollutants removed from ambient air**
- **27,000 tons of illegally disposed solid waste removed from land**
- **250 tons of hazardous waste brought under control and properly managed**
- **50,000 gallons of industrial wastewater now properly treated**



## OTHER COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT "TID-BITS"

- 98 percent of the 3,200 gas stations in Mass are in compliance with “Stage II” vapor recovery requirements
- Community Public Water Systems serving over 94% of the population met all Safe Drinking Water Act Health Based Standards
- The “Candid Camera” and “Eye-in-the-sky” are still remarkable success stories



# TOPICS OF INTEREST & UPDATES

- **Safe Neighborhood Chemical Initiative**
- **Mobile lab**
- **Emerging Contaminants**
- **Bus Retrofit Program**
- **Stormwater Program**
- **Brownfields**



## **SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CHEMICAL INITIATIVES**

- **Response to Danvers and S. Hadley incidents**
- **Increased inspection “targeting” flexibility allowed by EPA**
- **Growing partnership of DEP and DFS programs**
- **Pilot project initially**



# GOALS OF PROJECT

- Find previously undetected opportunities for serious environmental and public safety incidents
- Determine if this inspection model is effective in finding these undetected opportunities
- Does the inspection process itself heighten awareness at facilities about these opportunities





## Goals of Project (continued)

- Does the multiple agency inspection model work well
- Is this an effective use of the increased targeting flexibility now allowed by EPA



# PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES

- **Initial notification: Request for Information (RFI)**
- **Most involved follow-up phone conversations**
- **“unannounced” means 2 to 3 day notice prior to inspection**



## Project Design Features (Continued)

- **Inspection Team includes MassDEP, DFS, local fire Department and State Police Fusion Center**
- **Team reviews RFI response before inspection**



# TARGETING CRITERIA

- Generally small to mid size facilities
- Located in or near residential areas
- Handle “dangerous” materials
- 40 to 50 facilities across the state



# SNCI FINDINGS

- **Potential Imminent Hazard Situations**
  - One potential release of anhydrous ammonia
  - Two potential dust explosion hazards
- **DEP activity/facility classifications are not good indications of risk potential**
- **Weaknesses with hazardous chemical and flammables storage and use licenses: not renewed; no statewide database; gaps in coverage**





## SNIC FINDINGS (continued)

- Fire protection systems are not well maintained or inspected
- Generally, storage/handling/use of small quantities of hazardous materials not risk to neighborhoods



## FEATURES THAT CAN INCREASE RISKS

- **Open tanks/containers of hazardous materials**
- **Processes that heat flammable/combustible liquids**
- **Manual control of chemical processes rather automated systems with alarms and shut-offs**



## FEATURES THAT CAN INCREASE RISKS (Continued)

- **Use of high hazard chemicals, particularly gaseous compounds (chlorine & ammonia)**
- **Generate combustible dusts**
- **Poor maintenance of fire detection & suppression systems**



# MOBILE LAB

- Available summer 2008
- Stationed at Wilmington, but deployable statewide
- Trained Teams in each Regional Office



# RANGE OF CAPABILITIES

- **VOC's: all media**
- **Oil identification**
- **Landfill gases**
- **Mercury vapor**
- **Asbestos**
- **Bacterial contamination**
- **Surface & groundwater quality**





## EXAMPLES OF EXPECTED DEPLOYMENT SCENARIOS

- **Major industrial incident: Danversport explosion; South Hadley chemical spill**
- **Storm damage contamination**
- **Sewage spills**
- **Water supply emergencies**
- **Indoor air problems caused by external releases**
- **Strike Force investigation**



# EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

## MassDEP STRATEGY

- Started with perchlorate in drinking water: first standard in the country
- DEP recognized there maybe other situations similar to perchlorate where we need to take leadership role
- Permanent internal workgroup created to focus on EC issues



# **FUNCTIONS OF EC WORKGROUP**

- **Track and maintain expertise on EC issued**
- **Utilize consistent process to review EC's and prioritize**
- **Make routine recommendations to Commissioner's Office on priority EC matters (about every 6 months)**
- **Information transfer with other agencies, local officials, and public**



# CURRENT PRIORITY EC ISSUES

## SHORT-TERM:

- Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products
- Endocrine Disruptors
- RDX (cylotrimethylenetrinitramine)
- Tetrachloroethylene



## CURRENT PRIORITY EC ISSUES (Continued)

### **LONGER-TERM**

- Manufactured Nanoparticles
- Brominated flame retardants
- MTBE
- Trichloroethylene
- Tungsten



For more information on  
Mass DEP's Emerging  
Contaminant Work:



[www.mass.gov/dep/toxics/stypes/emercfs.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/toxics/stypes/emercfs.htm)



# Diesel School Bus Retrofit Program Updates

- Issued RFR for retrofit vendors; responses due March 5; contract awards by end of March, 2008
- Developing on-line reservation and payment software; fully functional by mid March

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# Diesel School Bus Retrofit Program Updates

- Developing “Welcome Aboard” toolkit for bus owners and vendors to help implement the Program
- Anticipated Program launch by early April 2008

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# **DIESEL SCHOOL BUS RETROFIT PROGRAM UPDATES**

- **Press event to publicize Program roll out; likely to include representatives from DEP's Commissioner's Office, EEA, and early bus owner participants**
- **Direct mailing of "Welcome Aboard" toolkit to school bus owners and vendors**

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# **DIESEL SCHOOL BUS RETROFIT PROGRAM NEXT STEPS**

- **Program promotion at target events, including Earth Day, School Transportation Association of MA annual meeting in July**
- **Workshops across the state to demonstrate the on-line reservation and payment software**

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# WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Forward Program information to person responsible for school bus services in your community
- Encourage early participation in the program
- Contact DEP to help schedule a workshop in your community
- Request DEP Program materials for distribution

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## DIESEL SCHOOL BUS RETROFIT PROGRAM INFORMATION RESOURCES

- E-mail  
([MassClean.Diesel@state.ma.us](mailto:MassClean.Diesel@state.ma.us))
- Web page  
([www.mass.gov/dep/air/diesel/masscleandiesel.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/air/diesel/masscleandiesel.htm))
- Help Line (617-292-5809)

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# STORMWATER

- **Proposing to develop comprehensive stormwater strategy**
- **Key factors to do this now:**
  - **EPA Program: expansion & compliance issues**
  - **TMDLs: show stormwater major pollutant contributor**
  - **Keep runoff “local”: recharge watershed & groundwater**
- **Broad based Stakeholder Group to be formed**



## GOALS OF STORMWATER STRATEGY "RECHARGE STORMWATER"

- Make sense out of patchwork of federal, state & local regulations
- Broaden coverage of commercial, institutional, and industrial facilities with significant runoff volumes
- Phase-in strategy for existing facilities





# BROWNFIELDS

- More proactive role of government to facilitate Brownfields reuse
- Four initiatives under consideration
  - Interagency “Brownfields Triage Teams”
  - DEP Brownfields Circuit Riders
  - Pilot a Revolving Loan Program: Brownfields SRF
  - Municipal Cost Recovery Relief